

INFLUENZA

I. IDENTIFICATION

- A. **CLINICAL DESCRIPTION:** Influenza is an acute viral infection of the respiratory tract characterized by the sudden onset of fever, headache, myalgia, coryza, sore throat and a dry cough.
- B. **REPORTING CRITERIA:**
- Positive influenza viral isolates are to be reported.
- C. **LABORATORY CRITERIA FOR CONFIRMATION:**
- Culture isolation of influenza viruses from pharyngeal or nasal secretions.
- D. **KENTUCKY CASE DEFINITION:** A case that is laboratory confirmed.

II. ACTIONS REQUIRED / PREVENTION MEASURES

- A. **KENTUCKY DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REQUIRES ROUTINE NOTIFICATION:**
Laboratories are to report influenza isolates on a weekly basis.
- B. Kentucky 902 KAR 02:065 requires long term care facilities to report an outbreak (2 or more cases) of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) within 24 hours to the local health department or the KDPH.
- C. **PREVENTION MEASURES:**
- Annual influenza vaccination is recommended for persons at high risk for influenza - associated complications and those in close contact with high-risk persons such as health-care providers and family members.
 - Annual influenza vaccination is recommended for persons 50 years and older.

III. CONTACTS FOR CONSULTATION

- A. **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTH DATA BRANCH:** 502-564-3418.
- B. **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, COMMUNICABLE DISEASE BRANCH:** 502-564-3261.
- C. **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, DIVISION OF LABORATORY SERVICES:** 502-564-4446.

IV. RELATED REFERENCES

1. Chin, James, ed. INFLUENZA. In: Control of Communicable Diseases Manual. 17th ed. Washington, DC: American Public Health Association, 2000: 270-276.
2. Prevention and Control of Influenza: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2000; 49(No. RR-3): 1-27.
3. Pickering, LK, ed. Influenza. In: 2000 Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. 25th ed. Elk Grove Village, IL 2000: 351-359.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Chapter 5, Influenza. In: Manual for the Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Disease. 1999, 1-9.